

2014 Western Section Beef Symposium Program

*Attendees should meet in the north parking lot of the Animal Bioscience Building (ABB)
on the Montana State University campus.*

Please arrive between 7:30 am and 7:45 am as the bus will leave promptly at 8:00 am.

Depart ABB at 8:00 Wednesday June 19, 2013

8:30 to 10:30: Stop 1 - MZBar Ranch Belgrade, MT – Tom Milesnick

MZBar ranch is situated on 1400 acres just north of Belgrade, Montana. This cow/calf operation (as well as hay and grain for the ranch) has 2 spring creeks – Thompson Spring Creek and Benhart Spring Creek – in addition to 5 miles of the East Gallatin River, for the skilled fisherman. All 3 streams produce large, healthy wild brown and rainbow trout. Tom Milesnick will provide information on trout stream habitat restoration and pasture rotation.

R. L. Endecott. Montana State University, Bozeman. – Supplementation during drought.

Andy J. Roberts, L. Alexander, T. Geary, R. Waterman, and M. MacNeil. USDA, ARS, Fort Keogh LARRL, Miles City, MT. Multi-sire breeding, how many calves will each bull produce?

11:00 to 1:00. Stop 2 – Churchill Cattle Co. Manhattan, MT – Dale and Nancy Venhuizen

Churchill Cattle Company is owned and operated by Dale and Nancy Venhuizen and their four daughters near Manhattan, MT, where their goal is to design, produce, and market the very best quality Hereford genetics for the local, national, and international beef industry.

D. Kress. Montana State University, Bozeman – Heterosis: the forgotten free lunch

D. Faulkner and S. Lake. University of Arizona and University of Wyoming. –
Relationship of voluntary intake and cow survival under range conditions

2:00 to 3:30 to Stop 3 – Red Bluff Ranch Norris, MT - Montana State University

Red Bluff Ranch is located near Norris in Madison County, Montana, along the west side of the Madison River. The operation comprises 13,750 acres of land, 10,000 deeded and 3,750 leased. Most of this land is rangeland, with limited hay meadows along the valley bottoms. Elevations range from 4,600 feet to 6,200 feet above the Madison River canyon. The ranch occupies most of the once thriving late 19th-early 20th century gold mining community in the Hot Springs Mining District which was second only in gold production to Alder Gulch. At its peak of activity, there may have been a population of approximately 3,000. The ranch nearly surrounds the town of Norris. The founder of Norris, Alexander Norris may have owned much or all of the Red Bluff Ranch at one time. The Red Bluff Research Ranch (previously known as the Rowe Brothers

Ranch) was purchased for \$164,000 (\$16.83 per acre). The total acreage was 9,746. Two U. S. Forest Service Grazing Permits (Muddy Greek, Cache Creek) in the Gallatin National Forest came with the Rowe property. Some small additional land exchanges and purchases have taken place over the last 45 years. The grazing permits were returned to the Forest Service in 1976. A new lambing facility and mixing barn at the ranch was constructed in about 1990. This made lambing much easier. There are currently about 170 head of cattle and 900 head of sheep maintained on a year round basis at the research ranch. These livestock along with the range areas are used for both teaching and research.

G. Brester. Montana State University, Bozeman. –Does the Cattle Cycle Still Exist?

4:00 to 5:00: Stop 4 – Bozeman Agriculture Research and Teaching (BART) farm Bozeman, MT

BART, formerly known as '*The Towne Farm*' is located west of 19th Street and the main MSU campus. This farm comprises approximately 430 acres and houses the Oscar Thomas Nutrition Center, Miller Stock Pavilion, Equine Center, Horseshoeing School, Feed Mill, and Beef Center. The farm is dedicated to the service and support of research, teaching and extension activities relating to livestock and livestock management.